

State of Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry Forestry Services

J. Kevin Stitt Governor Blayne Arthur Secretary of Agriculture

August 21, 2023

Dear Applicant:

Oklahoma Forestry Services, in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service and the Oklahoma Urban and Community Forestry Council, is pleased to again make available the Urban and Community Forestry Cost-Share Grant Program. We encourage state and local governments, approved nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and community tree volunteer groups to participate.

These grants, made possible by the 2018 Farm Bill, provide funds on a competitive basis to enable Oklahoma communities to improve the care and management of their valuable local tree and forest resource. The goals of the program are to develop a better understanding of the local tree cover and resource, to better care for this resource and to provide educational and technical guidance to plan, maintain, and improve our urban and community forests across Oklahoma.

An application and criteria outline for the narrative is enclosed in this package. Community involvement and partnerships are the heart of any urban and community forestry program. We encourage applicants to include these objectives in their proposals.

The application deadline is **November 17, 2023**. You will be notified as to the status of your application by December 30, 2023. Should you have any questions, please contact Mark Bays at Oklahoma Forestry Services at the below address or call (405) 522-6150.

Sincerely,

Mark Goeller

State Forester, Director